**Task Force to Review Cooperative Banks**

2692. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether RBI has constituted a task force to review the functioning of cooperative banks in the country;

(b) if so, the composition of the task force and the time by which it would submit its recommendations to Government;

(c) whether Government have found bottlenecks in the functioning of cooperative banks throughout the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and what other steps have been taken to improve the functioning of cooperative banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) Government had set up a Task Force in April, 1999 under the Chairmanship of Shri Jagdish Capoor, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India to study the functioning of co-operative banks and to suggest package for their revival/restructuring. The other members of the Task Force are Managing Director, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Joint Secretaries in the Ministries of Finance (Banking) and Agriculture, Government of India. The report of the Task Force is in the advance stage of finalisation. Further action will be taken after the report of the Committee is received.

**Credit Guarantee Scheme for SSI**

2693. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a credit guarantee scheme for small scale industries under consideration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) in what manner it will benefit SSIs; and

(d) whether it will generate more employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) As announced in the Budget Speech for the financial year 2000-2001 the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Small Scale Industries (SSI) with a budget provision of Rs. 100 crore is proposed to be